

Automatic fermenting vessel for wine manufacture

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Abstract

Fermentation vessel with automatic operation, for wine production, comprises a main vessel (9) to hold the must; an upper vessel (10) above the main container; a device (14, 15, 16) which periodically feeds some of the liquid from the base of the main vessel to the upper vessel (10); and a device (17, 18) to empty the upper vessel by spraying it onto the layer of marc floating on the top of the must in the main vessel, using a bottom valve (17, 19, 20) operated by a control device (21) which varies the width of the opening cyclically in accordance with a predetermined relationship, during the transfer of the liquid from the upper vessel. Preferably, the valve has a closure member (17) which can be moved between a closed position against a vessel orifice (18) and an open position in which it defines an annular opening

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